

In the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 10 as follows:

Embodiments of the porous silicon-based explosives that include either a nitrate salt or a perchlorate salt are contemplated for use as initiator reactions in any device in which an explosion, deflagration or other fast reaction occurs. Other chemical oxidants, such as fluoride- or nitro-containing salts may be used insofar as the oxidant is preferably a chemical oxidant. ~~They ought to be included if in fact they are contemplated, so that we don't unnecessarily restrict the scope of any embodiment.]~~ For example, porous silicon, preferably in the form of a solid film, is combined with a nitrate salt or a perchlorate salt and may be used as a vehicle air bag actuator to initiate the inflation of an airbag. More specifically, a vehicle air bag's inflation system reacts sodium azide (NaN_3) with potassium nitrate (KNO_3) to produce nitrogen gas. Hot blasts of the nitrogen inflate the air bag. A porous silicon-based explosive that includes, for example, potassium nitrate, could be used to trigger the larger explosion of the azide salt that liberates the nitrogen.